

PATENT SPECIFICATION

DRAWINGS ATTACHED

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

Nestable Receptacle

We, PLASTICS PACKAGING LIMITED, a Company registered under the Laws of Great Britain, of Cumberland Avenue, Park Royal, London, N.W.10, do hereby declare the invention, for which we pray that a patent may be granted to us, and the method by which it is to be performed, to be particularly described in and by the following statement:—

This invention relates to receptacles, for example cups of thin-walled plastic material, for example, one of the disposable cups of generally-conical form, which can be nested with economy of storage space.

According to the present invention, a nestable receptacle of flexible thin-walled material, having a bottom and a generally conical side wall, has the bottom formed with a recess containing one or more transversely-extending integral ribs.

The ribs give the cup stiffness and ability to support the weight of a cupful of hot liquid, which has a tendency to cause the bottom of the cup to sag, particularly if the liquid is hot enough to soften the material substantially.

It is preferred that there are more than one rib and that these extend parallel with each other, with a width about equal to half the spacing between adjacent ribs.

In one form of the invention the ribs merge into a flat annular ring constituting the outer part of the bottom.

The invention may be carried into practice in various ways and one embodiment will now be described by way of example with reference to the accompanying drawings as applied to a thin-walled generally conical disposable drinking cup made of sheet plastics material.

In the drawings,

Figure 1 is an elevation of the cup;

Figure 2 is a section corresponding to the lower part of Figure 1; and

Figure 3 is a plan view of the cup shown in Figure 1.

The thickness of the material varies between five thousandths of an inch and thirty thousandths of an inch, and it has an external rim 11 at the top of the side wall 12 giving some stiffening and also has some vertically-spaced horizontal stiffening ribs 13 in the middle portion of the side of the cup for strength. At the bottom 14 of the side wall are a number of circumferentially-spaced indentations 15, which enable cups to be nested, one within the other, without being wedged together by virtue of the bottom rim 16 of an upper cup resting on the ledge 17 at the top of the indentations 15 in a lower cup.

The bottom of the cup has an inner portion which is slightly recessed from the external annular portion 18 which rests on the table, and the recessed portion has five equally-spaced, depending, parallel transverse ribs 19 extending across it. The width of each rib is about equal to half the spacing between successive ribs, and they extend more or less over the whole width of the recess. In section, each rib is roughly rectangular as shown in Figure 2, giving the section a castellated appearance. It will be seen that when the cup is standing on its bottom on a flat surface, the ribs are spaced a little above the flat surface.

The ribs give the cups sufficient stiffness to support the weight of a cupful of hot tea.

WHAT WE CLAIM IS:—

1. A nestable receptacle of flexible thin-walled material having a bottom and a generally conical side wall, in which the bottom is formed with a recess containing one or more transversely extending integral ribs.

2. A receptacle as claimed in Claim 1 in

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which there are more than one rib, and these extend parallel with each other.

3. A receptacle as claimed in Claim 2 in which the spacing between adjacent ribs is not greater than about twice the width of each rib.

4. A receptacle as claimed in any of the preceding claims in which the ribs give a section of the cup a castellated appearance.

5. A receptacle as claimed in any of the preceding claims in which the ribs merge into a flat annular ring constituting the outer part of the bottom.

6. A receptacle as claimed in any of the preceding claims in which when the receptacle is standing on its bottom on a flat surface, the ribs are spaced a little above the flat surface.

7. A receptacle as claimed in any of the preceding claims in which the portions of the bottom between adjacent ribs are flat.

8. A receptacle as claimed in any of the

preceding claims made of a plastic material.

9. A thin-walled plastic cup as claimed in any of the preceding claims.

10. A cup as claimed in Claim 5 having a finger gripping portion consisting of a number of vertically spaced horizontal ribs in the side wall.

11. A cup as claimed in Claim 9 or Claim 10 having a nesting ledge in the side wall provided at the top of a portion of the wall, directed upwardly and inwardly from the general line of the conical wall.

12. A cup as claimed in Claim 11 in which a nesting ledge is provided at the top of a number of circumferentially-spaced upwardly- and inwardly-directed portions.

13. A cup arranged substantially as herein specifically described with reference to the accompanying drawing.

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COMPLETE SPECIFICATION

1 SHEET

This drawing is a reproduction of
the Original on a reduced scale

